

SS#2 SCS SB 55 -- STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

This bill renames Missouri Southern State College as Missouri Southern State University-Joplin. The renaming is to be accomplished without use of state funds. The bill also designates Missouri Southern as a statewide institution of international or global education and adds Missouri Southern to those institutions which are charged with a statewide mission and governed by a board of governors, rather than a board of regents. Missouri Southern will discontinue, as of July 1, 2008, any associate degree programs unless the continuation of those programs is approved by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education. Approval of additional master's degree programs at Missouri Southern or any other public higher education institution must follow established new degree approval procedures.

The Coordinating Board for Higher Education may promote development of cooperative agreements between higher education institutions to offer graduate degree programs on campuses which do not otherwise offer graduate degrees. Diplomas would include the names of both institutions.